I claim:

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A sound system for a motor vehicle, comprising:

a control unit;

an input unit for operating the system;

a display unit;

a unit for generating source data in the form of audio data;

an amplifier unit for amplifying the source data;

at least one speaker; and

a bus system assuring transmission among said individual units of the source data and control data for controlling said units;

at least a given one of said units other than said control unit having an associated memory representing a functional scope of said at least one given unit, said functional scope to be transmitted through said bus system to said control unit, and said transmitted functional scope to be used in said control unit at least partially for forming a functional scope of the entire system.

The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said memory assigned to said at least one given unit is part of said at least one given unit.

- 3. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, including a computer unit spatially separated from said other units, connected through said bus system to said at least one given unit and having said memory.
- 4. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 3, wherein said memory associated with said at least one given unit is writable with altered functional scopes in said computer unit.
- 5. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 3, wherein said bus system has a prepared interface for disconnectably connecting said computer unit.
- 6. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said control unit, said input unit and said display unit are connected to one another for showing operating menus required for operating the entire system on said display unit in accordance with the functional scope of the entire system and for operating the system with the aid of said input unit on the basis of displays in said display unit.

7. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 6, wherein said input unit and said display unit are combined into a single unit.

8. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 7, wherein said input unit has individual keys allocated to associated operating functions, said display unit is subdivided into individual segments spatially associated with said individual keys and representing a particular operating function, and said control unit selects a display of the operating function in the various segments on the basis of the functional scope of the entire system.

- 9. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, including corresponding units for generating multimedia data to be transmitted along with the audio data.
- 10. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 9, wherein the other multimedia data are video data.
- 11. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 9, wherein said corresponding units for generating the multimedia data are DVD players and corresponding units for displaying the multimedia data.

- 12. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 9, including a plurality of units for generating at least one of audio and multimedia data.
- 13. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim
 1, wherein said at least one speaker is a plurality of
 speakers, and a plurality of amplifier units for amplifying
 the audio source data are each spatially associated with and
 connected to at least one of said speakers for triggering only
 said speakers with specifically amplified audio data.
- 14. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, including a timer for tripping a formation of the functional scope of the entire system from the functional scopes of the individual units, after a predetermined period of time has elapsed.
- 15. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim
 14, wherein said predetermined period of time for forming the
 functional scope of the entire system is adjustable.
- 16. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim

 1, wherein the formation of the functional scope of the entire

 system is trippable from the functional scopes of said

 individual units, when at least one of said units is turned

 on.

- 17 The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said input unit trips an output of a status of the functional scopes of at least one of the entire system, individual units and all of said units, through said display unit.
- 18. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said operating unit trips the formation of the functional scope of the entire system from the functional scopes of said individual units.
- 19. The sound system for a motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said units are disposed in a mobile home.
- 20 A sound system for a house or an apartment, comprising:
- a control unit;
- an input unit for operating the system;
- a display unit;
- a unit for generating source data in the form of audio data;
- an amplifier unit for amplifying the source data;
- at least one speaker; and

bus system assuring transmission among said individual units of the source data and control data for controlling said units;

at least a given one of said units other than said control unit having an associated memory representing a functional scope of said at least one given unit, said functional scope to be transmitted through said bus system to said control unit, and said transmitted functional scope to be used in said control unit at least partially for forming a functional scope of the entire system.

21. A method for defining a functional scope of a sound system, which comprises:

providing a control unit, an input unit for operating the system, a display unit, a unit for generating source data in the form of audio data, an amplifier unit for amplifying the source data, at least one speaker, and a bus system assuring transmission among the individual units of the source data and control data for controlling the units;

providing at least a given one of the units other than the control unit with an associated memory representing a unit-specific functional scope of the at least one given unit;

transmitting the functional scope through the bus system to the control unit;

using the transmitted functional scope in the control unit at least partially for forming a functional scope of the entire system;

furnishing the control unit with its unit-specific functional scope from the memories associated with the individual units upon a modification of the system for generating source data and upon an attendant modification of the functional scope of the system;

at least partly combining the unit-specific functional scopes into a new total functional scope of the entire system; and

subsequently triggering the individual units with the control unit in accordance with the total functional scope, and allocating the generated source data to the individual corresponding units accordingly.

- 22. The method for defining the functional scope of a sound system according to claim 21, which comprises performing the step of modifying the system by adding a further unit.
- 23. The method for defining the functional scope of a sound system according to claim 21, which comprises supplying data

from the control unit to the input unit and the display unit in accordance with the total functional scope, for permitting a user of the sound system to individually adjust various parameters of the functions of the system.

- 24. The method for defining the functional scope of a sound system according to claim 23, which comprises selecting the parameters from the group consisting of volume, base, treble, fader, balance and equalizer.
- 25. The method for defining the functional scope of a sound system according to claim 21, which comprises supplying data from the control unit to the input unit and the display unit in accordance with the total functional scope, for permitting a user of the sound system to call up individual functions of the individual units for generating source data of the system.
- 26. The method for defining the functional scope of a sound system according to claim 25, which comprises selecting the individual functions to be called up from the group consisting of play, change track, repeat, fast forward, rewind, change frequency, change frequency band, mute, activate/deactivate traffic radio reports, start station scan and activate/deactivate RDS functions, through appropriate operating menus.

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